

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SUFFOLK COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PARKS,
RECREATION AND CONSERVATION
MINUTES OF APRIL 21, 2011
SCULLY ESTATE
ISLIP, NEW YORK**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Miles Borden	Vice Chairman, Town of Smithtown
Gil Cardillo	Trustee, Town of Riverhead
Gregory Dawson	Chairman, Town of Islip
Michael J. Domino	Trustee, Town of Southold
Kathleen Gooding, Ph.D.	Trustee, Town of Shelter Island
Richard Hollborn	Trustee, Town of Babylon
Dawn Hopkins	Trustee, Town of Brookhaven
Alexander McKay	Trustee, Town of Huntington
William B. Sickles	Trustee, Town of Southampton
Richard F. White, Jr.	Trustee, Town of East Hampton

ABSENT

Amy Engel	Member of the Board
Bill Shilling	Member of the Board

PARKS DEPARTMENT

Joseph Montuori	Commissioner
Tracey Bellone	Deputy Commissioner
Terry Maccarrone	Coordinator of Community Bases Programs
Richard Martin	Director of Historic Services
Tony Trotta	Superintendent
Ann Rothenberg	Assistant to the Commissioner

GUESTS

Lauretta Fischer	Chief Environmental Analyst, Planning Dept.
Pamela Greene	Director, Division of Real Property, Acquisitions & Mgmt.
Janet Longo	Acquisitions Supervisor, Division of Real Property, Acquisitions and Management
Nick Paglia	County Budget Office
Tom Young	County Attorney's Office
Tom Jones	Suffolk Committee for Camping
Richard Hardy	Suffolk Committee for Camping

Chairman Dawson introduced Kathleen Gooding, the new Trustee from Shelter Island and Michael J. Domino, the new Trustee from Southold.

PUBLIC PORTION

There were two members of the public present. They did not wish to speak.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MARCH 17, 2011

A motion to accept the minutes was made by Trustee White and seconded by Trustee Hollborn. The minutes were unanimously approved by a vote of 10-0-0.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Commissioner Montuori reported on the following:

- The Indian Island Restaurant contract is in place. It hasn't opened yet. Snacks are being sold out of the Pro Shop.
- We are almost done with the license agreement for Sweet Hollow Stables.
- The Parks Foundation Earth Day Awards Dinner is April 27th, 2011.
- We are having an Earth Day event today at Gardiners County Park in partnership with National Grid. They are putting out benches, cleaning up, repairing fencing, putting out wood chips in the playground, trimming trees and painting the building. They are doing a wonderful job.
- Our new reservation system for camping is up and running. We had a few issues, but our staff did a wonderful job taking care of our customers' concerns.

Trustee Dawson asked about the status of the dedication of the John Fritz Memorial Fishing Pier.

Deputy Commissioner Bellone responded we are working on the language for the plaque.

Trustee White distributed a draft of the wording for the plaque for the Trustees to review. He stated that when you read the wording, you'll get a little bit of the flavor of John Fritz. He was a wonderful person. He was persistent at getting a fishing pier built at Smith Point.

Deputy Commissioner Bellone reported that she and Jim Barr went to Smith Point this past week to see where we could actually mount the bronze plaque and signage. They decided to put the signage, John J. Fritz Fishing Pier, along the top of the fishing pier and to mount the plaque on a pedestal underneath the gazebo. Nick Gibbons will be reaching out to Mrs. Gerta Fritz to come up with a date that works for the family.

A motion to accept the wording for the John J. Fritz Memorial plaque was made by Trustee White and seconded by Trustee McKay. The motion was unanimously approved by a vote of 10-0-0.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Dawson reported that at yesterday's Parks Committee meeting, I.R. 2240-2010 was tabled again. We haven't had a chance to reconvene with the new verbiage on the revised resolution. The amended copy reads:

1. adds "for residential housing purposes" in the 2nd RESOLVED clause.
2. authorizes the Parks Trustees to approve all expenditures in excess of \$5,000.00.

Trustee Sickles said that this resolution would take effect in January 2012. Since the rent money grows as the year goes on, are there provisions to cover costs incurred during the first few months before there is enough money in the account to cover the cost? Chairman Dawson responded we still have the \$44,000 in designated funds which should cover those costs.

A motion to support revised I.R. 2240-2010 was made by Trustee Dawson and seconded by Trustee Hopkins. The motion was unanimously approved by a vote of 10-0-0.

A Trustees resolution will be created to support this decision.

ROUND TABLE

Terry Maccarrone reported on the following:

The 12/26/2010 storm at Meschutt County Park undermined the decking. He visited the site with FEMA recently. FEMA implemented a new policy between the November and March storms, which we are being held to, as to what qualifies as an engineered beach. If we cannot produce the necessary documentation, we won't be able to prove that the beach is engineered. That could make us ineligible for FEMA funds at Meschutt.

The Boardwalk at Cupsogue is still in the hands of DPW. They have been working on it for quite a while.

Trustee Cardillo asked about the dredge spoils from the creek at Indian Island County Park. Deputy Commissioner Bellone responded that it is a restoration project with the Department of Environment and Energy that Nick Gibbons is working on.

Trustee Sickles reported the Parks Department lost a long time seasonal employee, Helen Pugh, this past year. She worked at Theodore Roosevelt County Park for 33 consecutive summers. She was an asset to the park and will certainly be missed.

Richard Martin reported there are two large restoration projects that are in the process of being completed. One is the Blydenburgh Mill in Smithtown. We don't have the full funding to get the mill work in place yet, but the building will be completely restored by the end of the summer. The other is the Coindre Hall Boathouse which is an ongoing, multi phase/multi year project. We are presently doing the stabilization of the building which will include rebuilding the tower and the two chimneys. We are also currently working on the Booth House in Yaphank. The next restoration will be the Homan House in Yaphank which dates back to 1790.

Richard Martin reported that the Council on Environmental Quality is starting to make off-site visits for their monthly meetings. They have already had meetings at the Isaac Mills House, Sagtikos Manor and the Blydenburgh Historic District.

Richard Martin mentioned that the Earth Day event is planned for Saturday, April 30th, 9:00 AM at the Scully Estate. It is a co-sponsored event between Suffolk County Parks and the Seatuck Environmental Association. Last year this event attracted a huge crowd.

Trustee White said he would like to rescind Trustees Resolution No. 02-2010 rendering an opinion from the Trustees regarding their recommendation to change the name of Theodore Roosevelt County Park to Third House County Park. Legislator Schneiderman has a problem with that. As a result, Trustee White went back to the Montauk group that had proposed that change. Legislator Schneiderman came up with a nice compromise. He would agree to change Theodore Roosevelt County Park to Montauk County Park and, at the same time, officially designate Third House as Third House. The Trustees decided to combine these changes into one resolution.

A motion to create a Trustees Resolution rescinding Trustees Resolution No. 02-2010 and instead recommend changing the name of Theodore Roosevelt County Park to Montauk County Park and, at the same time, officially designate Third House as Third House, was made by Trustee White and seconded by Trustee Borden. The motion was unanimously approved by a vote of 10-0-0.

Trustee White mentioned that CCOM (Concerned Citizens of Montauk) will be having a meeting on May 1st to discuss future burns at Theodore Roosevelt County Park. The Nature Conservancy used to do that every year but they have pulled out. CCOM is willing to finance the person who has the burn license; to underwrite it financially. Trustee White had a meeting with the Commissioner back in January and the Commissioner said if DEC (Department of Environmental Conservation) approved this, it would be O.K. with him. Trustee White said he hasn't heard from DEC and asked if our office has heard from DEC. The Commissioner said he has not heard from DEC but will check out the status with Nick Gibbons when he returns from vacation.

Trustee White reported that an Earth Day event is scheduled for Sunday, May 1st at the Montauk Playhouse.

Trustee McKay mentioned former Parks Trustee, Ray Corwin, will be honored at the Parks Foundation Dinner scheduled for April 27th. He asked if a plaque was ever put on the Greenbelt Trails in honor of Ray Corwin. A meeting was held at Southaven Lodge to discuss this issue some time ago and Trustee Hollborn said it was put on hold because Ray Corwin's partner, Mindy, wasn't ready to make any decisions yet. Mindy will not be attending the awards dinner. John Pavacic, the Executive Director of the Central Pine Barrens, will be accepting the award on her behalf.

Trustee Borden reported that a number of the Trustees attended the Legislative Parks Committee meeting yesterday and heard a presentation on the Trap and Skeet Range from the office of Legislator Browning. Trustee Borden asked the Commissioner if he was under any pressure to close the facility. The Commissioner responded "no".

Pamela Greene reported that the Department of Environment and Energy has a new Commissioner, Brian Culhane. He was approved by the Legislature the end of March.

Deputy Commissioner Bellone gave an update on the Cherry Avenue Dog Park in Sayville. We have been working on this project with the Town of Islip Parks Commissioner, Greg Dawson. We have to share the town road to access the parcel. The fencing has been installed. We have been working with LIPA who will be donating wood chips to cover the entire facility. The dog owners have been asking us to try the wood chips instead of grass. Trustee Dawson has worked it out with the Baymen Soccer Club to allow us to tap into their water so we can run water for this facility. We are going to regrade the road and we will be adding parking on our parcel. That, hopefully, will all be done in the upcoming weeks and we will have a grand opening in late spring.

Deputy Commissioner Bellone reported that in addition to that project, on that same exact parcel, Presiding Officer Lindsay has put in funding to build a skate park. We actually have plans from our Smith Point Skate Park Proposal which never went forward. We are going to work with DPW to have those plans made into actual biddable documents. Hopefully in 2012, on that same parcel, we will be able to add a playground with grant money from the Division of Services for Children with Special Needs. Presiding Officer Lindsay has indicated he may also find some capital funding for that project. We will name the park West Sayville County Park.

The next meeting is scheduled for May 19th, 2011 at Bergen Point Golf Course in West Babylon, NY.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Trustee White and seconded by Trustee Hollborn. The motion was unanimously approved by a vote of 10-0-0.